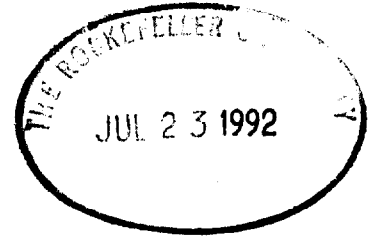




Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

JUL 16 1992



Dr. Joshua Lederberg
The Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
New York, NY 10021-6399

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

When the President's budget for Fiscal Year 1993 was announced in January 1992, Biotechnology Research was declared a Presidential Initiative in recognition of the importance of the biological research arena for the future of the scientific, technological, and economic health of the U.S. A report called *Biotechnology for the 21st Century* was released at that time which described and supported the Presidential Federal budget for biotechnology research of \$4.03 billion for Fiscal Year 1993. The initiative and the report were the products of an intensive, year-long effort by the 12 participating agencies (see enclosed report). While this report does indeed represent a major effort, and the first systematic compilation and analysis of Federal programs and budgets in biotechnology research and infrastructure, we fully recognize that it is just a beginning.

In the next few months, the Committee responsible, which I chair, the Biotechnology Research Subcommittee (BRS) of the Committee on Life Sciences and Health, will be reviewing and revisiting the general schema and the eight priorities that were established by us for Biotechnology Research (see pages 8 through 13 of the report). We will be examining the priority and relevance of these recommendations, and attempting to define some concrete objectives for implementing them in the Federal program.

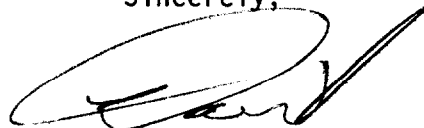
My purpose in writing you is to request your assistance in reviewing the initial report and especially in helping to shape the character of the program for Federally supported biotechnology research. We are asking selected leading experts external to the government, in academic and industrial research, and in other relevant areas, to provide us with their views that can help guide us in shaping the Federal Biotechnology Research Initiative. I would ask that you give us the benefit of your views about where and how Federal research support is most needed in a letter (later in the year we may organize a meeting to discuss and consider the collected views expressed). The BRS is especially interested in your opinions about the eight principal priorities, and in your opinions about the future of biotechnology research. Please address, particularly in your areas of expertise, the following points: (i) the importance of the eight priorities (rank them if you wish, and comment), and please add any priorities that you believe we have overlooked, Conversely, please delete any that you believe should have low priority or are not in the best interest of the Federal biotechnology research program, (ii) the most effective ways in which the Federal government can accomplish these goals and objectives (e.g. see Figure 1, page 2 of the report), and (iii)

areas that should be of special concern. Finally, if you wish to comment on them, we would appreciate your opinions of the funding levels for Fiscal Year 1993 requested of Congress by the 12 agencies. The issue here is simply, are the budget requests, in your view, commensurate with directions, priorities and, particularly, opportunities that we should be pursuing in biotechnology?

I think this effort to review and coordinate the wide range of Federal research programs, and thus to shape the Biotechnology Research Initiative is an important first step to enhancing the effectiveness of U.S. research enterprise and the variety of biotechnology activities in the U.S. Please feel free to address only those areas or points that you wish to, and summarize your thoughts in a letter addressed to me. If your views are to significantly affect the deliberations of the committee for the Fiscal Year 1994 Initiative we will need to receive your letter by August 17. If you have any questions or require more information please feel free to contact me by phone (301-903-3251) or the Executive Secretary for the BRS, Dr. Jay Grimes (301-903-4183).

I fully recognize the burden that this sort of request places on your limited time. Be assured that we gratefully appreciate any effort you are able to make and that your views will be carefully considered in shaping the programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David J. Galas', with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

David J. Galas, Chair,
Biotechnology Research
Subcommittee and
Director of Health and
Environmental Research

Enclosure